Parks and Recreation-1929

Alabama

FIFTY-FIVE ACRE PARK FOR NEGROES

Reporter

No city the size of Birmingham has such poor facilities for recreation to serve colored people. This fact adds interest to the announcement that the Dozier Park is to be fitted up by the Park and Recreation Board and put under the direction of a trained worker. The present plan covers a two-year period in which the fifty-five acre tract of land owned by the Alabama diocese of the Episcopal Church and formerly known as Dozier Park has been donated.

11-9-29

The Negro children and adults of this city will be glad to take advantage of the opportunity for recreation offered by this park. It opens the way to interest the public in the ownership of a park for Negroes, and by the time the two years have expired a sentiment for better recreation facilities will have been made. The donation of the land by the Episcopal Church for public purposes deserves the very highest commendation. The need for something of this kind has long been apparent, and the efforts on the part of prominent citizens to arouse interest in recreation facilities for Negroes have been slow to materialize.

Birmingham

This is an appreciable beginning and the end of it should be seen in some well planned and permanently located recreation grounds. There is a large Negro population in this city which must depend on private places for outdoor recreation, and private places for Negroes are just as inadequate as they are scarce.

Mrs. C. W. Brooks, the wife of the principal of the Episcopal School of this city, is to be remembered with much appreciation and thanks for the fine way in which she went about to secure the fifty-five acres of land from her denomination for the use of Negro people in this district. It was almost single handed and in the beginning she had only the sanction of her good husband whose interest is keen and substantial for the growth and security of the people of this district. The work of Mrs. Brooks will be long remembered by those who long for adequate centers of amusement and recreation. The Reporter pledges unstinted support to the development of this project for race members.

COLORED PLAY-GROUNDS TO OPEN JUNE 6

Reporter

6-1-29

Birmingham

The colored playgrounds of the city will open in all sections Thursday, June 6. There will be added attractions in the program as planned for the summer and the activities will be of a diversified nature. Many thousands attended the play centers last summer and much good community work was accomplished. There is a growing popularity among the children and grown-ups for this type of work and the play leaders are easily the most sought after persons in the communities where these grounds are located. Already, the children and grown-ups as well, are looking forward to the day of opening. A feature of the summer playgrounds for this year will be a general field day and athletic meet. Each playground will in addition to entering teams and representatives in athletic feats, exhibit handicraft articles of woodwork and sewing. Under the leadership of Miss Evelyn Martin, the colored workers have secured during the summer a one-ton truck to assist in transportation and in helping the workers generally in their work on the various grounds.

Following is a list of playgrounds and their leaders for the summer:

North Birmingham, Miss Isabella Miles; Tittusville, Miss Essie Varner; Ensley, Miss Minnie Finley; Pratt City, Miss Earnestine Rutland; Tuggle, Miss Lucile Ensley; Avondale Miss Bennie Gardner; East Birmingham, Mrs. Catheine Cunningham; Lincoln, Miss Rita M. Clark; Southside Mrs. Bessie W. Johnson.

With interest growing in playground work in and around the Lewis School, play activities will open there under the name of the Acipco playground with Mrs. Mary Lanvache as leader. Chas. E. Johnson has been selected as Supervisor of boys activities and will have charge of manual training on each of the grounds and the inter-playground meet that will feature the work of the play centers for the summer. Miss Evelyn Martin is general Supervisor of all colored workers and activities.

NEGROES TO HAVE PARK IN BIRMINGHAM; SITE SECURED

Reporter 11-2-29

A park for Negro children and adults where amusement and recreation will be fostered under the direction of an efficient paid worker has been obtained for a two-year period, according to an announcement coming from the Park and Recreation Board. The site consists of fifty-five acres and is located near Thrash Station on the North Ensley car line, and is donated to the city for two years by the Episcopal diocese of Alabama for park purposes. The new venture in the line of recreation will go a long way to satisfy the crying need of the Negro population of the city of Birmingham. There are nearly 70,000 of the race group in this city, it is said, and no form of recreation center where any considerable number may be entertained. It goes without saying that the Negro population will patronize and appreciate this beginning so well that at the expiration of the two years the city commission will see fit to purchase a site for a permanent park. The recent acquirement for Negroes was brought about by the assistance of Mrs. M. J. LeNoir, Mrs. R. B. Mills and Mrs. J. M. Hankins. The Negro people are already expressing their appreciation for this beginning.

Parks and Recreation-1929

D.C.

INSTITUTE FOR RECREATION LEADERS

C. N. S.

The Playground Association of America is holding a summer training school for recreation leaders in Washington at the Garnet-Patterson Junior High School upon the invitation of the Community Center Department of the Public Schools, extended by the Board of Education.

Washington Eagle
7-19-29
Washington D.C.

A corps of specialists from the New York headquarters are instructing in all phases of Community organization and recreation, including Roy Smith Wallace, lecturer on the philosophy of the playground movement and administration problems; John A. Martin, instructor in games and recreational organization; Kenneth Clark, of the National Association for the Advancement of Music, instructor of community music; and Jack Knapp, community dramatics.

The school is under the direction of Mr. Ernest T. Attwell, of Philadelphia, director of the Colored Bureau of the Playground Association of America.

The course began July 8, and will close August second, after four weeks of intensive and practical recreation training.

The class of twenty is made up o a selected group of men and women from all sections of the country, including Louisiana, Indiana, Ohio Michigan, New York, Illinois, Virginia, Maryland, Florida, New Jersey, Arkansas, and the District of Columbia.

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Georgia.

Brunswick, Ga., Pilot
Friday, January 18, 1929

County Park For Colored People To Be Provided

While nothing has been said on the subject recently, the county commissioners have been working hard on the problem of carrying out their promise to the colored citizens of the county to provide them with a public park somewhere in the county, adjacent to the highways and with water frontage. When the county was engaged in its energetic improvement campaign of the past few years and parks were being laid out at several different points in the county, definite promises were made to the colored citizens that an ample public park would be set aside for their exclusive use. Every time the commissioners thought they had the right place and started to take the necessary steps to establish the park, first one and then another objection would develop and nothing was ever accomplished. However, it is understood that a site that would be satisfactory to everybody has been practically decided upon and that before long the promise of the commissioners will have been made good.

Summer Program Of Playground Very Successful

The Municipal Colored Playgrouns closed the most successful seasons known in the history of the playground work of Atlanta. The field day exercises were held Friday, August 23, at Washington Park. The general park manager, Mr. L. L. Wallis and wife; the supervisor, Mrs. Chester Johnson, and 30 odd white playground directors were present to witness the exercises. Through the efforts of Mrs. Rosa Parker King, three loving cups were given by the following: The Atlanta Life Insurance Company through their very efficient publicity chairman, Mr. Cyrus Campfield, gave a cup for the best art display, which was won by Mrs. Rosa Parker King, of the David T. Howard playground. A very handsome cup was given by the Atlanta Association of Colored Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists, Dr. Charles Johnson, president; Dr. Raymond Carter, secretary, for the champion ball players, which was won by the David T. Howard Playground. A third cup was given by Mr. James L. Holloway, one of our foremost business men, for the best dance, was won by Miss I. M. Speer of the Gray Street Playground.

Never in the history of the colored playgrounds has there been given loving cups for encouragement of our boys and girls. Through efforts of Miss I. M. Speer the Hanley Company donated $5 to the girl having the best art display, which was won by Alva Thomas of the Washington Park Playgrounds, Mrs. Thelma Thornton director. Through efforts of Mrs Eddie Mae Darden, Yates & Milton donated a bathing suit for stunts. Hopkins Book concern donated a book, "How to Make Good" for the best carving, won by Perry Pitts, Gray Street Playground. Mr. Bailey of the 81 Theater, donated a season pass to the girl who had the best weaving, won by Tolitha White, E. P. Johnson Playground. Through the efforts of Mrs. Thelma Thornton, the Mirror Publishing Company, through Mr. Frank Hamilton, donated 250 programs.

The Atlanta Park Department Supervisor and Directors wish to thank every one who helped to make the playground season a success and also wish to congratulate you upon the interest you have manifested in civic uplift. We also wish to thank the following undertakers who helped to transport our children to and fro for competitive ball games at the various parks: the Harris Funeral Home, the Hanley Company, the David T. Howard Company.

Mrs. Chester Johnson, supervisor entertained the colored directors at a theater party at the Capitol Theater on Tuesday, August 27.

Directors: Mrs. Thelma Thornton, Washington Park; Mrs. Eddie Mae Dorden, E. P. Johnson, Mrs Rosa Parker King, David T. Howard, Miss Irene M. Speer, Gray St

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Kentucky

E. T. Atwell Addresses Citizens On Recreation Needs.

Banquet at Allen Hotel.

"The Place of Organized Recreation in Community Activities," was discussed Wednesday night by E. T. Atwell before a gathring of local business and professional people at the Allen Hotel. Mr. Atwell, who is attending the sessions of the Sixteenth National Recreation Congress, is director of the Department of Colored Work and is considered an authority on the subject.

Calling attention to the trend towards shorter working hours in practically every industry, Mr. Atwell stated that it was highly necessary that some wholesome program for the workers' free time provided. "Much of our delinquency, adult and juvenile, can be traced to the wrong kind of amusement and recreation offered by most communities," said Mr. Attwell. "It is just as important," he continued, "that a community provide facilities for wholesome recreation and play, as it is to provide educational, religious or business opportunities." Concluding a very interesting discussion of the entire play and recreation movement, Mr. Attwell urged the leaders of Negro activity in the city to interest themselves in the recreation program carried on in Louisville and avail themselves of every opportunity to increase and improve existing facilities.

More than one hundred teachers, social workers, business and professional people, heard Mr. Attwell. The occasion was an informal reception honoring colored delegates to the Recreation Congress which is holding daily sessions at the Brown Hotel. They were presented to the audience and discussed briefly the work they were doing in their respective cities. Following the discussions, cards and dancing were enjoyed by those present.

J. C. Johnson, Lexington, Ky., Miss Phenon Summers, Columbus, Ohio Miss Sarah Jackson, Zanesville, Ohio De Hart Hubbard, Cincinnati, Ohio Miss Constance L. Gillespie, Richmond, Ind., Miss Naomi K. Irwin New Orleans, La., Mrs. M. Rawlings Detroit, Mich.; C. J. Grinnell, Philadelphia, Pa., J. A. Thomas, Louisville, C. W. Sedgwick, Louisville and E. T. Atwell, Philadelphia, arer registered members of the Congress.

MR. ERNEST T. ATWELL,
Nat. Director of Colored Recreatio Work.

Parks and Recreation – 1929

Louisiana.

Times-Picayune, New Orleans, La., United States
Sunday, July 28, 1929

...one under the ... directly responsible to it. Thus, little by little, the New Orleans Council is growing and will soon be one of the largest in the South.

PLAYGROUND FOR NEGROES URGED

Whites of Seventh Ward Back Project Before Council

Backed heavily by the white citizens, the negro citizens of the seventh ward are making a strong plea to the commission council to carry out the idea of the City Planning and Zoning Commission which the people of the seventh ward understand is to provide a park and playground for the negro children of that ward.

The petition of the negro citizens of the seventh ward for a park and playground for the children of their race has the endorsement of the best white people of the lower section of the city who recognize the fact that recreation for negro children has been neglected.

It is pointed out that there are now fifteen parks and playgrounds and four swimming pools for the white children of the city, while there is only one playground and one swimming pool for the negro children.

Dr. J. A. Hardin, well known colored physician, has interested a committee of the citizens of the seventh ward in petitioning the council to take advantage of the fact that there is a square of ground available for playground purposes adjoining the old Crescent Star Park; that this square of ground can now be purchased for about half its true value, and that if advantage is not taken of this opportunity at this time, the property may enhance in value.

The committee of white citizens stated it understands the city now has an option on this square of ground with the view of utilizing it as a playground for negro children, and the council is urged to lose no time in closing a deal for its purchase and conversion into a park and playground.

In closing its letter of endorsement the committee of white citizens co-operating with the leading negro citizens, said:

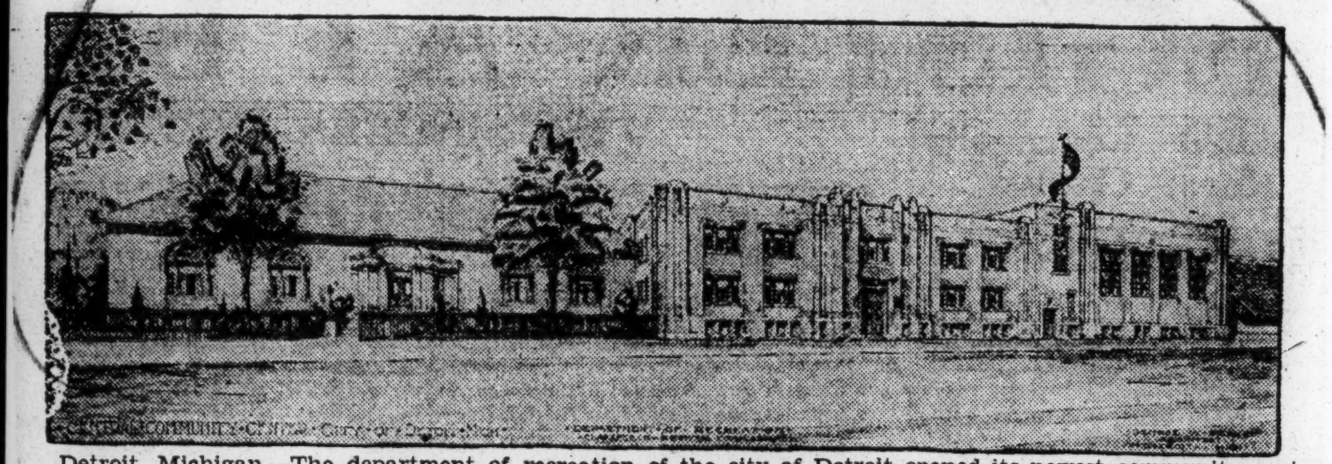
"Among the one-third of the city's population, made up of members of the colored race, there are many who own their own homes, paying property and other taxes, contributing to the maintenance of the Senses, Tuberculosis and Charity Hospitals, the Community Chest and all eleemosynary institutions.

"Therefore we, the white citizens of the Seventh Ward of the city of New Orleans, do favor and hereby petition our city fathers to answer the prayers of these colored citizens and purchase for them and their children the square of ground adjoining the old Crescent Star Park square."

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Michigan.

DETROIT DEDICATES BIG PLAY CENTER



Detroit, Michigan.—The department of recreation of the city of Detroit opened its newest community center a project just completed at a cost of nearly $500,000, with a formal dedicatory program, Friday night last.

Members of the city council, the mayor, and Recreation Commissioner C. E. Brewer were present and spoke The principal address was delivered by Ernest T. Attwell of Philadelphia, field director of the Bureau of Colored Work, Playground and Recreation Association of America. Mr. Attwell said:

"Public recreation should meet the needs of all creeds, classes and races. Placing this fine central community center—though open to all citizens—in a neighborhood where the population is largely of the colored group, emphasizes a fair-mindedness on the part of the city administration that should not be overlooked by sane, well-balanced, good-willed citizens.

Afro-American 11-2-29

"There is no city in America that has as squarely met the needs of the usually less-favored group. And this i true: recreation for the masses, just as is true of schools, must be supplied by municipal support and provisior Public responsibility for welfare programs, tax supported, is part of the new era of progress."

The staff of the community center here recruited from both groups, is headed by Leon C. Wheeler, the di rector of the center.

MAYOR SPEAKS AS 5,000 VIEW CEREMONIES

Doors Opened to All Races and Creeds

(Photo on Picture Page)

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 1.—More than 5,000 persons jammed and taxed the new Central Community center, 637 Brewster St., Friday night, Oct. 25, to witness the formal opening of the building and the dedication program.

So large was the crowd that thousands were turned away from the door. The auditorium and gymnasium were both used, and both were filled to capacity to accommodate the crowd.

11-2-29

The program in the auditorium was presided over by Louis C. Blount, and when the speakers in the auditorium had finished their addresses they were taken over to the gymnasium and addressed the crowd there. This meeting was presided over by Attorney Walter Stowers. This new center, which cost $500,000, dedicated not to any race, color or creed, will serve the recreational needs of one of the most thickly populated sections of the city.

The program opened with a band concert under the direction of H. Alf Kelley. The Recreational boys' band played to the overflow crowd in the gymnasium under the direction of E. W. Katz. The invocation was given by Rev. R. L. Bradby of the Second Baptist church. The Boatner chorus and the Ratliffe chorus rendered several beautiful numbers. Mrs. Dorothy Williams-Steger also rendered several selected numbers.

Chicago Def.

Present Keys

The presenting of the keys to the building was an impressive ceremony in itself. John Cowan of the firm of Sanbrook-Cowan, gave them to George W. Graves, the architect, who then presented them to John C. Nagel, acting mayor of the city of Detroit. Mr. Nagel upon reception of the keys said: "I dedicate this building for the people of the city of Detroit, regardless of race, color or creed. I realize that much prejudice exists in Detroit, but a building of this kind will help to wipe it out." Mr. Nagel then passed the keys to Commissioner Brewer, saying: "In behalf of the city of Detroit I give to you the charge of this building for the recreational needs of this district as long as its physical condition stands." In turn, the commissioner gave them to Leon C. Wheeler, the director in charge of the building. Councilman Nagel said: "I dedicate this building to the children of this district so that they may become better men and women." Other councilmen present and who spoke briefly were: Robert G. Ewald, William P. Bradley, Fred W. Castator and John Kronk. City Clerk Richard Reading was also present.

Attwell Speaks

Ernest T. Attwell, field director for the Playground and Recreational Association of America, was the principal speaker. He said in his address: "When the history of the play movement is written, Detroit will stand as the most advanced city in the country."

Rt. Rev. William T. Vernon, resident bishop of Detroit, spoke highly of the building and its importance to a city like Detroit. Mr. Wheeler made the announcement and Rev. William Reck pronounced the benediction. Dr. James W. Ames, chairman of the citizens' committee, gave a very interesting address on the work of the citizens' committee. An inspection tour over the building followed the program. The new center, the largest in the country, opened Monday, Oct. 28, for use. It contains a gymnasium, swimming pool, banquet hall and clubrooms. There is also a branch library, a shooting gallery, a boxing ring and handicraft rooms.

Mississippi

Parks and Recreation - 1929

MAY AID GULFSIDE

The future of Gulfside, Mississippi, a recreational center and assembly ground for Negroes established by Bishop R. [illegible] being gradually secured.

Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, who for sometime has shown very pleasing and helpful interest in the project, was recently at Gulfside, inspecting the enterprise. The Rosenwald Fund has given considerable encouragement to the development of Gulfside. Mrs. Edith Stern, daughter of Mr. Rosenwald and wife of Mr. Edgar B. Stern, New Orleans, who also is friendly to the enterprise, has about agreed to accept membership on the Gulfside Board of Directors.

In 1927 the Boy Scouts of Tuskegee Institute camped at Gulfside for two weeks.

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Missouri.

WOULD ABANDON NEGRO PLAY GROUND

It seems that when it comes to doing something by the city, wherein the Negroes are to be the chief beneficiaries, there is always just one thing after the other which the city officials find as an excuse for their failure to provide those things.

Now comes Park Commissioner Pape with a bill before the Board of Aldermen to repeal an ordinance which provided for a park-playground site in the neighborhood of Jefferson and Adams St., and gives as a reason for his action "economy". He states that the property will cost too much, that is, too much because the chief beneficiaries will be Negroes. We have never heard of the City Administration abandoning a park site or hospital site if the same were to be located in white neighborhoods.

St. Louis

A park, a breathing spot is very much needed in the neighborhood where this park was to be located. The poor and the needy, for the most part, live in this immediate vicinity. The high death rate charged against the colored people of the city may be traced largely to this or similiar neighborhoods. We all agree that money spent in providing recreational centers is a health investment as well as a humanitarian act. We all believe that such an investment will preserve human life. Surely Mr. Pape holds human life cheaply—that is, it depends—upon the cost.

2-8-29

It will be remembered that Mayor Miller said before, and since his election that he would assume the responsibility for the acts of his subordinates. Therefore, the failure of this park project may be truthfully laid at the Mayor's door, for Mr. Pape is the Mayor's appointee.

We tell you here and now, that when we think of how much is being spent by the present City Administration, and how little or none of that has been spent on those things which affect us directly, even those things provided in the $87,000,000 bond issue, we have about concluded that all this economy talk refers to Negro hospital, parks and playgrounds and a big cut in Negro janitors, etc., down about the City Hall.

Playground Plan Again In Danger

Stating that because the $450,000 damages assessed against the property is far in excess of the estimated cost of $225,000, Park Commissioner Pape, Monday declared that he would recommend that the Board of Aldermen repeal an ordinance condemning the property for a playground on a site bounded by Twenty-third and Randolph streets and Clark and Jefferson avenues.

Attempts to find a substitute location for the playground had failed so far, he said. Stars Park, Negro baseball field at Compton avenue and Market street, was considered, but the cost was too high. Pape pointed out that an ordinance providing for a playground on a site bounded by Sarah street, Finney avenue, West Belle place and a line 200 feet east of Vandeventer avenue had been passed and that this playground would be provided.

GLOBE-DEMOCRAT
ST. LOUIS, MO.

FEB 6 1929

NO MOVE TO ABOLISH NEGRO PLAYGROUND CONSIDERED

A repeal bill to abolish a Negro playground provided by ordinance at Clark and Jefferson avenue, was not approved by the Public Welfare Committee of the Board of Aldermen as erroneously stated in yesterday's GLOBE-DEMOCRAT. The committee did not have such a bill under consideration at its meeting.

Park Commissioner Pape, however, stated the city had not started work on the playground because of its prohibitive cost, $450,000, engineers having estimated the cost originally at only $225,000. He said that he favored the repeal of the ordinance. Efforts to establish the park elsewhere have been unsuccessful so far.

Parks and Recreation - 1929

New York.

NEW YORK WORLD

FEB 3 1929

Children's Aid Plans Harlem Playgrounds

More Recreation and Club Centres Is Immediate Aim of Society

By Lester A. Walton

AS AN antidote against further increase of juvenile delinquency among Harlem's Negro youth the Children's Aid Society, with the co-operation of other welfare agencies, is forming plans to open additional playgrounds and club centres in the district.

In the last five years the Negro's numerical strength in New York City has increased 50,000, now constituting one-tenth of Manhattan Island's total population. Coincidently, the race also forms one-tenth of the Nation's total population.

Recreational Advantages Are Inadequate

Most of the borough's Negro inhabitants live in North Harlem where, for quite a period, recreational advantages for Negro children have been inadequate. Hundreds of young folk have been compelled to play in the streets often coming in contact with undesirable associates.

Announcement of a definite program to open new playgrounds and club centres for Negro children was made by Owen R. Lovejoy, Secretary of the Children's Aid Society, at the tenth annual meeting of the New York Urban League, held at No. 204 West 136th Street. Emphasizing the seriousness of the situation Mr. Lovejoy said:

"Property values are so high in New York City, who could be expected to sacrifice space for anything as non-commercial as a playground or a club-house? Therefore, the development of playgrounds and club facilities for boys and girls lag far behind. This is not true of poolrooms, night clubs and cabarets for grownups. But these are carried on for profit. There is not any financial profit in giving play space, pure air, recreational inspiration to little boys and girls.

"We learn the recreational facilities in Harlem are only 15 per cent. of those needed. There are only six country camps for Negro children of New York, and they can accommodate only one thousand. Of fifty cases picked at random on the streets only one child was found to have any contact with organized recreation; and a survey of one Harlem district showed 95 per cent. of the boys under fifteen on the street after 7 P. M.

"On the Manhattan side of the Harlem River front there is not a public park or open space south of 152d Street except one square at 140th Street, and that is used as a storage yard by the City Water Department.

"These facts are summarized to show why we have certain records in our Health Department and City Court. Of the total cases in the Children's Court in 1920, 8 per cent. were Negro children, although at the time less than 3 per cent. of the population was colored. To-day on the per capita basis there are three colored juvenile delinquents to each white juvenile delinquent.

"But this is not the worst of it. When a colored child comes to trial he suffers a terrible handicap as compared with the white child; for of the colored children arraigned as delinquents in 1925, 20 per cent. were committed to institutions. And that is not the end of the story. The later fruit of this medieval policy of dealing with youthful offenders is seen in our City Prison, for 20 per cent. of those in the Tombs are colored.

"My purpose in discussing these facts are not to disparage the morals of our Negro population. I am simply preaching the text that you cannot get grapes from thorns nor figs from thistles.

Most Women Go Out For Work

"Seventy-five per cent. of the women of Harlem go out of their homes to work. This absence of mothers from the homes accounts in part for a sick rate higher among colored than white children.

"This is not a happy picture, but there is a brighter side. Social, educational, health and recreational agencies are awake to-day as never before to the needs of these children who have been allowed to grow up deprived of much of what every normal child needs to grow to normal maturity.

"The recent opening of a children's recreational centre, cafeteria and club rooms at the Utopia House, No. 170 West 130th Street, through the co-operation of the Utopia Women's Club and the Welfare Council has demonstrated on a small scale the ready response to such efforts. The Children's Aid Society considers itself fortunate in having been designated by Mr. Rockefeller, who furnished the funds, to have supervision and administration.

"We hope it will be possible in the near future to witness the opening of other playgrounds and club centres and, following our traditional policy, we shall of course seek the co-operation of the more fortunate residents in every step taken in this direction."

Prof. Leroy Bowman, Secretary of the City Recreation Committee, speaking on the subject, said:

"There is a great need of playgrounds in Harlem. There is about $2,000,000 left in the Real Estate Fund of the city, and some of this should be appropriated for Negroes. There are two playgrounds recommended for the section, but I don't see the Comptroller buying space for these immediately."

Reference made by James H. Hubert, Executive Secretary of the New York Urban League, to some accomplishments in social progress in 1928, included: Launching of a program for initiating boys into the Boy Scout movement with a trained Negro executive with an office in the Urban League Building; establishment of Club Caroline in West 127th Street as a home for Negro girls; establishment of Utopia Children's House and the establishment of the Welfare Council Committee on Negro Progress.

Discussing "The Underprivileged Boy," who usually gets into trouble as "a child of the streets," his first misstep being truancy, C. C. Allison jr., parole officer, made the following observation:

That the Negro boy of Harlem when on probation is quite a problem. One reason is the non-existence of a Big Brother Movement. Another is that he is arraigned in the Children's Court because there are no other institutions to which he can be committed.

Learn of Crime In Institutions

That boys from twelve to twenty-one are sent to the House of Refuge on Randalls Island.

That there is no place to send a colored boy when he comes out. White boys can go to the Salvation Army for food and shelter.

That what the boy does not know about crime when he goes into an institution he is well informed when he comes out.

That upon being released the boy is given 25 cents and a suit of Palm Beach clothing (probably in the winter), with the probability that he will revert to crime.

That in 1918, 54 per cent. of the inmates of the House of Refuge was made up of Hebrew boys and Negro boys constituted about 3 per cent. In 1928, the number of Hebrew boys had been reduced to 4 per cent. and the Negro boys increased to 44 per cent. Residents of Harlem are urged to emulate the example of Hebrew adults and make an organized effort to lower the mounting percentage.

Mr. Allison recommends that some place be established in Harlem to feed and offer clothing and temporary shelter to young Negroes released or paroled from the New York Penitentiary, a Big Brother organization among Negroes, and that a voluntary social worked be designated to co-operate with probation officers in the Family Court.

William H. Osborn, prominent in civic movements and President of the Children's Aid Society, at exercises recently held at the Utopia Children's House, which was attended by Mrs. Samuel Sloan, Miss Elizabeth Walton, Miss Grace Reeder of the Welfare Council and other outstanding citizens of both races, cited that young people in their teens and twenties had been arrested charged with most of the major crimes committed in Greater New York during the last two or three months. Deploring such an alarming state of affairs he remarked that the question of juvenile delinquency was a matter of serious concern to all sections of Manhattan, Bronx, Kings, Queens and Richmond.

The State Commission of Correction at Albany has issued a report stating that "one of the real problems facing State and social agencies is what to do about crime among the young." Statistics are made public showing that of the total of 109,488 males committed to the various institutions during the fiscal year 14,622 or 13.3 per cent. were between the ages of sixteen and twenty, and 4,257 had reached their twenty-first year.

N. Y. JOURNAL

JAN 28 1929

Negro Children Must Play

The Same As Others

There is a need for playgrounds in the negro section of Harlem. The Harlem and Bronx Journal has said that several times, and now Dr. Leroy E. Bowman, of Columbia University and secretary of the City Recreational Committee, has said it again.

Speaking at the tenth annual meeting of the New York Urban League at No. 204 West One Hundredth and Thirty-sixth street, he urged the city to provide a playground for negro children in crowded and neglected Harlem.

Negro youngsters are forced to run in the roadways because they have no place else to romp. Give these children a chance to play in safety. That's one of the best things the city can do.

Parks and Recreation-1929

Oklahoma

PLAYGROUND FOR NEGRO CHILDREN IN TULSA, OKLA.

Gentry Subdivision Is Acquired By City To Be Made Into Park

Tulsa, Okla.—As a result of a survey made by Jesse O. Thomas, colored field director of the National Urban League, of the recreational opportunities for the Negroes of Tulsa, and based on his recommendation, the mayor and park commissioners of that city recently purchased the Gentry subdivision for a Negro park.

Immediate improvement of the park was ordered by the park board at the insistence of Mayor Dan W. Patton. Work on the swimming pool is expected to be completed about August 1.

"There are about 22,000 Negro citizens in Tulsa," the mayor said. "Up until now they have not had a real city playground. I would like to see this park developed as far as possible this summer."

The city engineering department was directed to conduct a survey of drainage of the park, which will be carried out by the park board, Patton said. A street will also be considered leading into the park site.

The park is located in Gentry second addition, just south of Apach street near Greenwood avenue and Pine street. Playground equipment will be provided and the grounds will be cleared of undergrowth, the mayor said.

New York Age 7-27-29 p. 4

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Texas.

JOURNAL
DALLES, TEX.

JAN 15 1929

FOUR NEW WADING POOLS TO BE BUILT IN DALLAS PARKS

Four new wading pools will be constructed immediately by the park department on local playgrounds, according to Miss Maude Truax, director of playgrounds. Two of these pools will be constructed in negro parks for the benefit of negro children, one in South Dallas at the Wheatley Place playgrounds and the other at the Oak Cliff negro park.

A third will be constructed at the Lagow School play park, adjacent to the school campus, and the other will be constructed at Randall Park.

Work will be started immediately so that they will be ready for the playground season, opening Jan. 1. The city now has nineteen wading pools, only one having been provided heretofore for negro children.

MORE NEGRO PARK ACREAGE ASKED

In a letter to the city council, Dr. Walter H. Whitson, superintendent of the Houston Social Service Bureau, a local welfare agency, calls upon the city fathers to improve the municipally owned tract of land bounded by Erickson, Buffalo Drive and Nash located in the Fourth Ward, and convert it into a park for Negroes.

Dr. Whitson sets out in his communication to the council that the Negroes have only one small park in this city, and that the land in question can be cleaned, graded and made into a park and playgrounds for the large colored population in the Fourth Ward.

The Informer is glad to note that we have one outstanding white citizen who has come out openly for more park acreage for Houston Negroes—something this paper has contended for repeatedly; and we are hoping that his suggestion will meet the approval of the city council.

Not only ought a park be provided for the colored citizens of Fourth Ward, but Houston should provide parks and playgrounds for its colored population in all the heavily-populated Negro sections.

Emancipation Park, which the city never bought for its colored citizens, but which the Negroes themselves bought and finally turned over to the municipality for its control and maintenance, is entirely inadequate for a colored population in excess of 65,000

Just imagine 65,000 or more people all trying to congregate at one time on a 10-acre tract of land, and you have a mental picture of the situation which would obtain at Emancipation Park were all the Negroes in Houston to assemble at the same time on this small tract of land.

When it comes to parks, Houston has been remiss in its duty toward its colored citizens, while parks for white citizens are rather ubiquitous, with an aggregate acreage amounting to 2473

If the Negro element constitutes one-fifth of the metropolitan population of Houston, then the race should have at least one-fifth as many acres of park grounds, which would be around the 194 mark; yet the race only has 10 acres at Emancipation Park, where no improvements are made to beautify and enhance the value of the land.

The Houston Commission on Interracial Cooperation has a very fertile field in this matter for a fine bit of missionary work; and The Informer hopes that the city council will consider favorably the petition of Dr. Whitson, regarding the tract of land in the Fourth Ward, owned at present by the city, being converted into a park and playground for the colored citizens of this city.

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Tennessee

few years
farmer. Surviving are ...
daughter, Mrs. J. E. Ewing of Sweetwater; two grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. J. A. Hardin of Sweetwater, and four brothers, C. O., of Sweetwater, T. E. of Mankato, Minn.; D. H. of Fort Gibson, Miss., and H. W. of El Paso, Texas.

The body was removed to Coulter's. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

New Colored Golf Course Ready for Operation Oct. 15

The new Tom Thumb golf course that is being constructed at Lincoln park to serve the colored patrons of that amusement center will be ready for operation October 15, Commissioner Cash announced Saturday. The structure is being built by outside interests. However, the city is to receive a good share of the proceeds.

Parks and Recreation - 1929.

Virginia.

NEWS-LEADER
RICHMOND, VA.

JAN 21 1929

Committee to Talk Negro Playground

The purchase by the city of a twenty-five-acre tract between Tyler, Fell, St. Peter, Mitchell streets and North Richmond road, to be acquired at a cost of $65,000 and designated as a park and playground for Negroes, will be up for consideration by the city finance committee again tomorrow night.

After investigations that have extended over nearly two years a special committee, headed by Dr. Lawrence T. Price, recommended the acquisition of the above site. The paper passed through committee and through common council with little opposition, but was recommitted for further consideration at the last meeting of the board of aldermen. The committee may hold an open session tomorrow so that advocates and opponents of the park measure may be heard.

The finance committee will also have up before it the resolution auhtorizing a revision of the sliding scale under which gas is sold, the proposed reduction affecting only the larger users of gas and designed to bring new consumers to the city.

Parks and Recreation - 1929

Virginia.

NEWS-LEADER
RICHMOND, VA.

JAN 29 1929

CLAIM PARK SITE IS WELL LOCATED

Proponents of Negro Playground Measure to Appear Before Committee.

Seventy-five per cent. of the city's Negro population of approximately 60,000 live within easy reach of the twenty-five acre tract that has been recommended for purchase by the city for Negro park and playground purposes, according to advocates of the park site who will appear before the finance committee in the support of the project on Friday night.

It will be pointed out to the committee that the proposed park area has room for two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, a swimming pool and other athletic features and that all of these are overlooked by a natural ampitheatre such as is to be found nowhere else in the city.

The proposed Negro park and playground tract was selected after more than two years of efforts to find a tract suitable to the purpose, agreeable to both Negro and white citizens and within the means of the city to purchase. The resolution providing for its purchase passed through the committees and common council, but was recommitted when objection was raised in the board of aldermen. It comes up in public hearing before the finance committee Friday at 8 P. M.

Can Be Bought for $60,000.

The twenty-five acre tract can be bought for about $60,000. It lies within the area bounded by Tyler street, Fell street, St. Peter street and the North Richmond road, partly in a big ravine and partly on a plateau.

The property in its present state is in better physical condition, as far as park purposes are concerned, than was either Byrd, Chimborazo or Jefferson park sites when the city took them over, according to members of the special committee that selected the site.

The city is practically pledged to appropriate a sum each year for five years for the proper development of the park and playground after it is acquired and plans of the department of public works for making it more easily accessible for the Negroes include the construction of a foot bridge over the ravine.

Only Available Site.

Objection to the proposed site was raised on the ground that it is too near property developed into whit residential districts, but this is denied by members of the special park committee who state that the tract is at least three blocks east of Chamberlayne avenue and that entrance to the property by the Negroes using the park would not be by way of Chamberlayne avenue.

The tract is the only available site for the purpose with the exception of land near Oakwood and the latter section is too far removed from the center of Negro populations, according to advocates of the site now under discussion. It is pointed out that approximately 75 per cent. of the 60,000 Negro inhabitants of Richmond live west of Tenth street, north of Broad and east of Lombardy and that the tract under consideration lies within the heart of this area.

The meeting on Friday will be open to the public and representatives of the Richmond Recreation Council, the Community Recreation Association, the Negro Playground and Recreation Association and other organizations have indicated that they will attend the meeting and urge the purchase of the tract by the city.

NEWS-LEADER
RICHMOND, VA.

FEB 2 1929

NEGRO RECREATION PROPOSAL TABLED

City Finance Committee Takes Action on Measure Calling for $60,000.

Plans to provide the city's Negro population with a park and playground of its own went down to temporary defeat last night when the ordinance providing for the purchase of twenty-five acres of land at a cost of $60,000 was tabled by the city finance committee.

The measure had previously passed common council and the finance committee only to be recommitted to the committee by the board of aldermen on a question of cost.

Four and one-half hours discussion marked the reappearance of the measure in finance committee last night. Alderman R. L. Figg, headed citizens from the Northside who opposed the paper. Representatives of social and civic organizations advocated it and the valuation was testified to by local real estate operators.

An effort to have the paper forwarded on to the board of aldermen lost through a tie vote with Umlauf, English, Ledbetter and Woody voting to recommend it and Fuller, Nunnally Carpenter and Dickie in the negative. On motion of Councilman Dickie the paper was tabled for a conference with Lee ward's delegation.

Objection to the proposed park site which is north of the ravine between Jackson ward and North Richmond and east of Chamberlayne avenue, was based on the cost, though real estate men testified that it was lower than the actual value of the land. Citizens argued that a park so located would depreciate property values in the adjoining sections.

Dr. Lawrence T. Price, patron of the measure and chairman of a committee that selected the site after almost two years effort to find a suitable location, led the group that favored its passage.

NEWS-LEADER
RICHMOND, VA.

JAN 31 1929

TO ADVISE NEGRO PLAYGROUND HERE

Members of Recreation Group to Appear Before City Finance Group.

Playground experts, members of the recreation committee of the Richmond council of social agencies and representatives of the white and Negro community recreation associations will appear before the city finance committee tomorrow night to advocate the purchase of a 25-acre tract that it is proposed to purchase for a Negro park and playground.

The committee will take up the Negro park and playground project in open session beginning at 8 o'clock. It had previously passed through common council only to be tabled by the board of aldermen when it met with objection on the ground that it was too near highly developed white residential districts.

Advocates of the project stated today that objections raised on the ground that the park is too near Chamberlayne avenue and that Chamberlayne avenue will be used by the Negroes as the main thoroughfare to and from the park, are groundless. The park is three blocks east of Chamberlayne avenue and entrance will be by other streets.

It was pointed out that when Chamberlayne avenue was widened and also Second street, there was no hesitancy in taking the needed ground from the heart of the Negro section and that no objection was raised by the latter.

The proposed site, lying between St. Peter, Fell, Tyler streets and the North Richmond road is unsuitable for any other purpose than that embraced in the Negro park project, say advocates of the measure, and it lends itself admirably to park and playground purposes.

Dr. Lawrence T. Price, chairman of the committee that has sought for two years to find a suitable site for a Negro park, called attention to the fact that the proposed tract is the logical location for a park when considered in connection with the Negro population, 75 per cent. of whom live in the area immediately contiguous to it.

NEWS-LEADER
RICHMOND, VA.

JAN 22 1929

TO TAKE UP NEGRO PLAYGROUND PLAN

Finance Committee to Consider Land Purchase on Northside.

The acquisition by the city of land for a park and playground for its Negro population may hinge upon the action of the finance committee tonight when a resolution authorizing the purchase of twenty-five acres of land on the Northside for park purposes will be up for consideration.

The measure was recommitted by the board of aldermen at its lastt meeting. The proposed tract will cost about $60,000 and lies three blocks east of Chamberlayne avenue in a section entirely surrounded by Negro residents, said a member of the special committee on a Negro park today.

The special committee, headed by Dr. Lawrence T. Price, spent several months in examining suggested sites for the park, and according to members of the committee, the site suggested is the only suitable one in the city limits. Its rejection tonight may mean that the park movement will die a natural death.

The board will also have before it the question of a bond issue of $450,000 for such construction; a bond issue of $150,000 for gas department and $100,000 for the water works.

TIMES DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.

JAN 21 1929

Playground For Negroes To Be Probed Further

Finance Committee of City Council Considers Measure at Tuesday's Session

The Finance Committee of City Council at its regular January meeting tomorrow at 8 o'clock will further consider the measure providing for the establishment of a park and playgrounds for Negroes. This committee, and the Committee on Utilities, already has discussed and recommended the particular paper that will be before the body tomorrow night. It is probable an open session will be arranged for so that Council may hear from opponents of the proposed site.

The original resolution passed by both committees and approved by Common Council provides for the purchase of a tract between Tyler, Fell, St. Peter, Mitchell Streets and North Richmond Road, at a cost of approximately $65,000. There was slight opposition to the measure at former meetings. Many persons spoke for the paper, declaring the site as proposed the most suitable to be found within the city limits.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Aldermen, however, the resolution, on motion of Alderman Jack L. Epps, was recommitted to the committee for further consideration.

The committee will also consider a large number of appropriation measures forwarded by Council and the Board of Aldermen.

LYNCHBURG GIVES RACE PARK

East Tennessee News
8-2-29

Knoxville, Tenn.

LYNCHBURG, VA., Aug. 1.—Included in the 1930 civic budget will be money for the development of Dearington Park for Race citizens as a result of action taken by the City Council. A swimming pool 100 by 40 feet is to be built and the park laid out at an initial cost of $10,000. The park is located in the colored section.

Norfolk, Va. Pilot
Saturday, December 28, 192[illegible]

COUNCIL APPROVES ORDINANCE TO BUY NEGRO PARK SITE

Opposition Crops Up To Location of Proposed Bathing

Beach At Little Creek

TAYLOR TO REPORT ON STREET PAVING TUESDAY

City Council yesterday placed on first reading an ordinance appropriating $11,000 to buy 11 acres of water front on Chesapeake bay for a Negro bathing beach, heard a report from Director of Public Works Taylor that he probably would be ready next Tuesday to make a definite report on paving Granby street, and cleaned up a long docket of routine business preparatory to closing the books for the year.

Last week the City Manager was authorized to close negotiations with the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has agreed to sell land on the west of its Little Creek terminal development for the Negro park. The ordinance making the money available was started on its regular course yesterday, and the council agreed to take final action in the matter January 14. A number of persons expect to oppose the proposal.

W. W. Old, Jr., informed the council yesterday that he represented opposition to locating the bathing beach at the Little Creek site, and would desire to be heard before the matter was acted on. All others who desire to be heard may speak at the January 14 meeting.

Prompt Action Likely

Director Taylor informed the council, when asked about the Granby street paving, that the Virginia Electric and Power Company which will re-lay its street car tracks at the same time, was ready to go ahead. He said he doubted the wisdom of tearing up a downtown street during January but that the street car tracks were in such bad condition it was likely some action would have to be taken at once.

"I think I will have something definite for your consideration on this matter next Tuesday," he said.

Bids from six accounting firms were received for making the audit of the city's books for 1929. The council voted to award the contract to the low bidder, provided he was a certified public accountant.

Arthur P. Klavans was low, with a bid of $1,250 to do the work in 60 days. The council instructed the City Manager to award the contract to him if he were a certified accountant. If not, the contract will go to Fred F. Ames & Co., next low, with a bid of $1,350 to do the work in 60 days.

H. O. Nichols, president of the Garage Owners Association, owners and operators of public garages, asked the council to adopt an ordinance placing a license on tank wagons which sell gasoline on the streets. He suggested a license tax of $250 a year, pointing out that the wagon operators now paid no license and were able to undersell the garages which pay a merchants tax on their gasoline as well as a garage license. The matter was referred to the City Manager.

The City Manager reported that the city's share of the gross earnings of motor buses operated by the traction company during November was $1,-52.57. The city gets 2½ per cent of gross.

Application of Ernest D. and John Parker for permit to operate a pool room at 513-515 East Eighteenth street, was denied. The Virginia Electric and Power Company, whose shops and offices are adjacent to this address, were the principal objectors.

Application of Protestant and St. Vincent's hospitals, through David Pender and Dr. W. B. Martin, respectively, for an increase in the city's appropriation of $5,000 each, was denied on recommendation of the City Manager. Lack of funds was the basis for the recommendation.

Proposal of George E. Goddin that the city buy a lot in Algonquin Park to be used for park purposes, was disapproved on recommendation of the special park committee.

Appropriation of $825 to extend water mains in South Norfolk, one of the city's largest single water customers, was approved. Appropriation of $2,700 to buy four new trucks for the Water Department was approved.

H. W. Furlow and Mrs. N. H. Slack were reappointed trustees of the Community Fund, representing the city.

The City Manager reported that uncollected personal property taxes for 1894 to 1923, in the hands of the delinquent tax collector, were uncollectible in the main. He recommended that they be charged off the books, and this was approved.

The council approved a recommendation that $1,500 be made available for [illegible] sheds of Water Department motor equipment. The money will be spent, however, only when it can be made available from sources which do not now appear.